THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI): (a) The Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board has carried out an ambient air quality survey on 5.2.98 in the vicinity of MRK Sugar Mills in Cuddalore district to assess ambient air quality in the area. The survey conducted revealed that the air pullution levels encountered in the area were within the prescribed limits.

(b) No environmental epidemiological survey/study was conducted by the Board or the Sugar Mill. However, as ambient air quality was found within the prescribed limits, no significant adverse impact on health of the people living in neighbouring villages is envisaged.

(c) Yes Sir. The Government had directed the unit through the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board to ensure that the pollution control devices are installed as per the prescribed norms to avoid any adverse impacts.

वन भूमि पर फलों के पौधे लगाये जाने का प्रस्ताव

3386. **श्री नागमणि:** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार वन भूमि पर फलों के पौधे लगाने का विचार रखती है जो कि न केवल फलों के उत्पादन में सहायक है बल्कि पारिस्थितकी सहायक भी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि आवश्यक हुआ, तो क्या ऐसी वन भूमि को पट्टे पर दिया जाएगा?

पर्यावरण और मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री बाबू लाल मरांडी): (क) और (ख) वन भूमि पर फलदार वृक्षों का रोपण किया जा सकता है यदि जो प्रजातियां लगाई जानी हैं वह देशज हैं और इस प्रकार की वृक्षारोपण गतिविधि क्विाराधीन वन क्षेत्र के लिए एक समग्र वनीकरण कार्यक्रम का हिस्सा है। तथापि, कार्यान्वयन एजेंसियों के द्वारा जलवायु और मृदा परिस्थितियों को ध्यान में रखकर पौध-प्रजातियों का चयन किया जाता है।

(ग) जिस वन भूमि पर स्वामित्व, प्रबंध अथवा नियंत्रण सरकार के पास नहीं है उसको किसी संगठन को पट्टे पर देने के लिए वन (संरक्षण) अधिनियम, 1980 के अंतर्गत केन्द्र सरकार की पूर्व-स्वीकृति आवश्यक है।

Ban on the manufacture of products using ozone depleting substances (ODS)

3387. DR. ALLAADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have banned setting up of fresh capacity of manufacture aerosols produes using ozone depleting substances (ODS);

(b) if so, the details of alternatives developed or authorized to be used as substitutes; and

(c) the manner of assisting the industry to help phase out the process of ODS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI): (a) India is a party to the Montreal Protocol and required to phase out ozone depleting substance (ODS) in phases, by the year 2010. A draft notification has been published in the Gazette of India, that prohibits setting up of fresh capacities for manufacture of aerosol produets, except metered dose inhalers used for medicinal purpose, containing ODS.

(b) Hydrocarbon Aerosol Propellant (HAP) has been developed as an alternative to be used as substitute.

(c) Financial and technical assistance are available from the Multilateral Fund of the Montreal Protocol to the existing industrial units to help phase out ODS.

World Bank Study on Deaths Due to Pollution in Delhi

3388. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a study conducted by World Bank in 1991-92 showed that 7500 people died due to air pollution in Delhi alone;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that air pollution deaths in Delhi had increased to 10,000 in 1995 when a study was conducted by the Centre for Science and Environment; and

(d) if so, what action has been taken by Government in this context during the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI BABULAL MARANDI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The World Bank Report states that urban air pollution is deteriorating due to upward trends in power consumption, industrialation, personalised vehicles and refuse burning. The health effects, such as increased premature deaths and respiratory diseases, were estimated by a model and were as a result of a combination of factors such as air pollution, lower standard of living and nutrition. According to the study, 7401 people died prematurely in 1991-92.

(c) The Centre for Science and Environment has applied the same epidemiological model of the World Bank study to calculate the trend of mortality and morbidity due to air pollution in Delhi and other major cities. The study has revealed that the number of premature deaths in Delhi had increased to 9859 by 1995.

(d) A number of steps have been taken to prevent and control air pollution in Delhi and other cities. These include control of vehicular pollution through progressive tightening of emission norms for vehicles at the manufacturing stage ot bring in better technology vehicles which are fuel efficient and less polluting, introduction of cleaner automotive fuels such as low-sulphur diesel and unleaded petrol and control of pollution from in-use vehicles through a system of regular pollution check and improved road network and traffic management. Control of industrial air pollution includes, interalia,—notification of ambient air quality standards as also emission standards for the major categories of polluting industries. The Central Government lays down guidelines for siting of industries and major projects and provides for financial assistance for construction/augmentation of pollution control systems in industries and thermal power plants. A comprehensive Action Plan to control pollution in Delhi was prepared in November, 1997. The Environment Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority for the National Capital Region has been constituted on 29 January, 1998 for protecting and improving the quality of the environment and controlling pollution.

चिड़ियाघरों में जानवरों की स्थिति

3389. **श्री जनेश्वर मिश्र:** क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश के अधिकतर चिड़ियाघरों में जानवरों की स्थिति दयनीय है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इन चिड़ियाघरों की स्थिति सुधारने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की गई है?

पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री बाबूलाल मरांडी): (क) जी, हां। देश के अधिकतर प्राणी उद्यानों में जानवरों की वास-व्यवस्था एवं स्वास्थ्य संबंधी उपयुक्त सुविधाएं नहीं है।

(ख) केन्द्र सरकार ने जानवरों की वास-व्यवस्था तथा स्वास्थ्य सबंधी सुविधाओं के लिए वन्यजीव (संरक्षण) अधिनियम 1972 के प्रावधानों के तहत न्यूनतम मानक निर्धारित किए हैं। उक्त अधिनियम में यह भी प्रावधान है कि केन्द्रीय चिड़ियाघर प्राधिकरण की मान्यता के बिना देश में किसी भी चिड़ियाघर का संचालन नहीं किया जा सकता। चिड़ियाघर को मान्यता, संरक्षण के महत्व तथा निर्धारित मानकों पर चिड़ियाघर के खरा उतरने की संभावना को ध्यान में रखकर दी जाती है। मान्यता प्राप्त चिड़ियाघरों से, एक निश्चित समयावधि के भीतर अपेक्षित मानकों पर खरा उतरने की अपेक्षा की जाती है। इस उद्देश्य के लिए तकनीकी तथा वित्तीय